DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Quinlan DATE 5-9-83
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

391 K

DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN [redacted] NOON BRIEFING

NOVEMBER 28, 1977

(if ask basis only)

Possible Threat Against TWA

Q - We have a report that explosive sniffing dogs, accompanied by two professional handlers from Nashville, Tennessee, have just been sent to Rome airport. Is there any unusual security threat at Rome airport?

A - Explosive sniffing dogs have proved valuable in supplementing other methods to detect explosives. In this case, the dogs have been sent to Rome, with the concurrence ~~at the request~~ of the Italian government, to strengthen our FAA technical assistance programs.

Q - We have noted the more stringent screening measures being taken by US air carriers operating through Rome. What are the reasons for this?

A - The Italian government, in accordance with guidelines laid down by the International Civil Aviation Organization, is responsible for judging the security measures appropriate to the circumstances and for coordination with the carriers. I suggest you direct any questions to the Italian authorities.

[redacted]

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Q - Is the report correct that the American Embassy imposed a restriction on US employee travel on US air carriers departing Rome?

A - I am unable to comment on your question.

Q - Can you provide any information on any specific threat to a US carrier using Rome airport?

A - I have no comment on your question.

M/CT:HIsham:pd 11/28/77

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